

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 3 and 5 – 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,256,520 to Suzuki.

In order to expedite prosecution, independent claims 1 and 7 have been amended to include the features of claim 4, which has been canceled. Accordingly, as claim 4 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent format, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 7, which now includes the features of claim 4, is in condition for allowance.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Serial No.: 10/715,432

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 MEF:DAB
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: November 17, 2006

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